Production of pulses in the country

1277. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of pulses produced in the country during the last year and so far in the current year; and

(b) what steps are being taken to increase the production and bring down the prices ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) : (a) The estimated production of pulses in the country during 1988-89 was 13.70 million tonnes.

The final estimates of production of pulses for 1989-90 have not yet become due from the States. However, according to the present assessment, the production of pulses is expected to be in the range of 14.0—14.5 million tonnes.

(b) The steps taken by Government to increase production of pulses are as follows :—

(i) Introduction of pulses crops under irrigated farming;

(ii) Double/multiple/inter-cropping;

(iii) Bringing additional area under cultivation of pulses and introduction of short-duration varieties for sowings;

(iv) Increased use of inputs like improved seeds, adoption of plant protection measures, use of phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture;

These steps are supported by two programmes i.e.:

(i) National Pulses Development Programme; and

(ii) Special Foodgrains Production Programme (Pulses).

The above mentioned steps for increasing the production of pulses taken by the Government would result in increased availability of pulses and help to bring down the prices.

Target for supply of Drinking water

1278. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had set any target to supply potable water to the villages in different States during the 7th Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the target set and achievement made so far; in this regard, State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	Problem Villages on 1-4-85	Coverage as per reports received so far
1		2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15834	15834
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	391	391
3.	Assam	9570	7676
4.	Bihar	9199	9093
5.	Goa	38	36
6.	Gujarat	4911	4696